



The College of Physicians of Philadelphia

*presents*

## **The Mabel A. Purdy Lecture**

### ***Quality and Equality in Health Care***

**Risa Lavizzo-Mourey MD**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Wednesday, May 9, 2007**

**6:15 p.m.**

*Reception to follow the program*

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia  
19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia

To register, please call 215.563.3737, ext. 304  
or e-mail [lectures@collphyphil.org](mailto:lectures@collphyphil.org)

**Please refer to reverse side for speaker's lecture abstract and biography.**

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*Who you are and where you come from play a big role in what kind of health care you receive and whether the system does the job it should in taking care of you. There is another health care disparity that permeates the health care system: the disparity between the quality of care we know how to deliver and the quality of care we actually do deliver. In her presentation, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey will discuss how we get from the system of today to the system of tomorrow: a system where we deliver the care we know how to deliver the way it should be delivered. She will share her vision for a future where: (1) Everyone who needs health care can get it whenever they need it; (2) Where problems of quality and safety, inequality and disparities are fading memories; (3) Where health care is affordable, accessible, appropriate and equitable; (4) Where you can count on the safety and the accountability of patient care; and (5) where the system at long last is centered fully on taking care of patients – rather than on taking care of itself.*

Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is a national leader in transforming America's health systems so people live healthier lives and receive the health care they need. A practicing physician with business credentials and hands-on experience developing national health policy, she was drawn to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation by the opportunity, as she puts it, to "alter the trajectory and to push society to change for the better." Driven by the belief that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is a steward of private resources that must be used in the public's interest, particularly to help the most vulnerable, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey combines the values she learned as a doctor—commitment to others, a sense of altruism—with the skills and knowledge from her business training—the importance of measuring results and outcomes, of clear accountability, of taking a disciplined approach to managing resources and motivating people. Through it all, she is guided by the conviction that philanthropy is about simultaneously improving individual lives, transforming systems and in turn, achieving lasting social change.

Under Lavizzo-Mourey's leadership, the Foundation has restructured its strategic investments to target a set of high-impact priorities, among them:

- Designing a more effective, performance-driven, patient-centered health system.
- Improving the quality and safety of patient care.
- Strengthening state and local public health systems.
- Reversing the rise in childhood obesity.
- Covering the uninsured.
- Developing the next generation of health leaders and policy-makers.

Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey was a leader in academic medicine, government service and her medical specialty of geriatrics before joining RWJF in 2001 as senior vice president and director of the health care group. Previously, at the University of Pennsylvania, she was the Sylvan Eisman Professor of Medicine and Health Care Systems and Director of Penn's Institute on Aging. In Washington, D.C., she was deputy administrator of what is now the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine of The National Academies.

Raised in Seattle by physician parents, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey earned her medical degree from Harvard Medical School, and an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston; was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania; and trained in Geriatrics at Penn. Always a physician as well as an agent for wide-scale social change, she still treats patients at a community health clinic in New Brunswick, NJ.

